

WISCONSIN
HOME HEALTH AGENCIES AND PATIENTS
1999

January 2001

Bureau of Health Information
Division of Health Care Financing
Department of Health and Family Services

Introduction

This report presents selected statistics on Wisconsin home health agencies and their patients for 1999, as well as some trend information for 1991 through 1999. The source of data for this document is the Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, which was conducted by the Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, in cooperation with the Bureau of Fee-for-Service Health Care Benefits, Division of Health Care Financing; the Bureau of Quality Assurance, Division of Supportive Living; and Wisconsin-licensed home health agencies. The Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies collects information from agencies that provide both home health care and personal care, as well as those that provide home health care only. It does not collect information from agencies that provide **personal care only**.

In general, *home health care services* may include skilled nursing, physical therapy, occupational therapy, speech and language therapy, home health aide/personal care services, medical social services, or respiratory therapy services provided by a qualified individual in accordance with a patient's plan of care. *Personal care services* assist an individual with activities of daily living necessary to maintain the individual in his or her place of residence in the community. Personal care may include assistance with bathing, transferring, personal hygiene, changing bedding and clothing, toileting, meal preparation, and light housekeeping.

As part of the federal Balanced Budget Act passed in October 1997 (BBA 97), Congress included provisions intended to eliminate fraud and abuse and curb the escalating growth of Medicare expenditures for home health care. Medicare reimbursements for home health care were reduced to 1994 levels. Nationally, this resulted in the closure of 14 percent of Medicare-certified home health agencies between October 1, 1997 and January 1, 1999, according to the U.S. General Accounting Office.

In Wisconsin during 1997 (largely before BBA 97 was implemented), 9 home health agencies surrendered their licenses due to either closure or merger with other agencies. In 1998, 21 agencies closed or merged. In 1999, the number of home health agencies declined by a net of 15 agencies (9 percent) from 1998. (This net decrease reflects 19 agencies that closed or merged in 1999 or shortly thereafter and 4 agencies that opened in 1999).

The 1999 survey population consisted of 157 home health agencies. The survey form was sent to all licensed home health agencies in April 2000 by the Bureau of Quality Assurance (BQA) as part of the annual reporting requirements. Only agencies that were still in operation in April 2000 were mailed the 1999 survey. Agencies in operation in 1999 that did not complete the survey consisted of agencies that closed before April 2000, and a few agencies that were still operating in April 2000 but closed within several months and did not return the survey. Because agencies that closed in 1999 did not contribute data to this survey, the survey findings understate actual home health activity in 1999.

The information in this report is for calendar year 1999, with the following exceptions:

- Home health agency staffing information (Table 3, Figures 1 and 2) presents the number of employees during the week of April 12 to April 16, 1999.
- The number of home health agency patients on a typical day (Table 10) is based on the number of patients served on April 15, 1999.

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- The statewide financial information combines revenue and expenses of various fiscal years (12-month periods), nearly all of which ended in 1999. The effect of this variation on inter-agency comparison is not known.

The Bureau of Health Information would like to acknowledge and thank the personnel of Wisconsin home health agencies who provided information on their agencies and the patients they serve.

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Key Findings

Note: Because of the decline in the number of home health agencies in 1999 (a net of 15 agencies, or 9 percent, closed and thus did not participate in the survey), the findings in this report understate actual home health activity in 1999. (See Introduction for explanation.)

- There were 157 home health agencies that completed the 1999 survey, representing an overall decline of 15 agencies (9 percent) from 1998. Four governmental, four nonprofit, and 11 proprietary agencies closed or merged, while three new nonprofit agencies and one new proprietary agency opened.
- From 1998 to 1999, the total number of Wisconsin home health patients decreased 7 percent, following an 8 percent decline in 1998. The number of patients served by governmental agencies dropped 18 percent, the number of patients served by proprietary agencies declined 27 percent, and the number of patients served by nonprofit agencies remained about the same.
- During the week of April 12 to April 16, 1999, there were 5,415 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) employed by Wisconsin home health agencies, a decline of 933 (15 percent) from the 6,348 FTEs reported in April 1998. During 1999, the number of both home health patients and home health visits decreased 7 percent.
- There were 760 FTE personal care workers employed by Wisconsin home health agencies during the week of April 12 to April 16, 1999. About 43 percent of these workers were related to the patients for whom they were caring.
- Between 1998 and 1999, the number of FTE RNs working in home health agencies decreased 12 percent, FTE LPNs in these agencies decreased 16 percent, and FTE personal care workers in these agencies decreased 8 percent.
- The number of patients aged 85 and older declined for the second consecutive year. Patients 85 and older decreased 4 percent in 1999 and 10 percent in 1998. Similarly, patients under 55 years of age declined 4 percent in 1999 and 9 percent in 1998.
- The 1999 home health utilization rate (patients per 1,000 population) declined for the third consecutive year. There were 14.1 home health patients per 1,000 total population in 1999, 15.2 patients per 1,000 in 1998, and 16.7 per 1,000 in 1997.
- Among males age 85 and older in Wisconsin, 158 of every 1,000 used home health services in 1999, a rate unchanged from 1998. Females age 85 and older used home health services at a lower rate in 1999 (142 per 1,000) than in 1998 (154 per 1,000).
- Home health admissions declined 6 percent in 1999, after a 6 percent decline in 1998. Admissions from nursing homes decreased 19 percent, admissions from private residences declined 15 percent, and admissions from hospitals were down 2 percent.

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- Home health discharges decreased 7 percent in 1998, after a 4 percent decline in 1997. Discharges to nursing homes were down 19 percent, discharges to hospitals declined 9 percent, and discharges to private residences decreased 7 percent.
 - Among all home health patients in 1999, 80 percent received skilled nursing services (down from 83 percent in 1998), 25 percent received home health aide services (down from 30 percent), and 26 percent received physical therapy (up from 23 percent).
 - On average, proprietary agencies made 125 visits to each patient in 1999, up 34 percent from their 1998 average of 91 visits per patient. Average visits per patient declined 9 percent for governmental agencies (to 42) and 8 percent for nonprofit agencies (to 36).
 - Reported gross patient revenue of home health agencies statewide for 1999 was \$239.8 million, a decline of 10 percent from \$267.7 million in 1998. Gross revenue from Medicare constituted 45 percent of gross patient revenue in 1999 (down from 52 percent in 1998), while gross revenue from Medicaid constituted 37 percent (up from 30 percent).
 - Total agency revenue statewide was \$188 million in 1999, down 13 percent from \$216.2 million in 1998.
 - Statewide, total expenses reported by home health agencies exceeded total self-reported revenue by over \$25.8 million in 1999.
 - In 1999, 54 percent of home health patients used Medicare as a payment source, down from 56 percent than in 1998; 16 percent used Medicaid, the same percentage as in 1998; and 21 percent used private insurance, up from 18 percent in 1998.
 - About 43,200 home health patients used Medicare as a source of payment in 1999, a 12 percent decrease from the 48,900 patients in 1998.
 - About 13,300 home health patients used Medicaid in 1999, down about 5 percent from 1998 (13,900).
 - About 17,000 home health patients used private insurance as a payment source in 1999, an 8 percent increase from the 15,800 patients in 1998.
 - In 1999, Medicare payments as reported by home health agencies statewide totaled about \$84.1 million, a decline of 24 percent (\$26.5 million) from 1998. This followed a 21 percent (\$30 million) decline between 1997 and 1998.
 - In State Fiscal Year 1999, total Medicaid payments to the state's home care industry, as reported by the Wisconsin Division of Health Care Financing (DHCF), were about \$11.9 million more than in 1998. This represents an increase of 10 percent. DHCF-reported payments to home health agencies only (excluding other home care providers) declined by \$2.7 million, or nearly 4 percent.

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Table 1. Home Health Agencies, Patients and Visits by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1991-1999

Number of Home Health Agencies				
Year	State Total	Ownership of Agency		
		Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
1991	170	48	70	52
1992	183	47	80	56
1993	188	45	81	62
1994	192	45	81	66
1995	184	44	81	59
1996	193	43	82	68
1997	191	41	81	69
1998	172	36	74	62
1999	157	32	73	52

Number of Home Health Patients				
Year	State Total	Ownership of Agency		
		Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
1991	63,145	11,670	37,121	14,354
1992	67,244	12,273	39,248	15,723
1993	65,402	11,148	39,448	14,802
1994	72,257	11,411	44,725	16,121
1995	77,783	10,716	51,126	15,941
1996	84,092	9,783	58,808	15,501
1997	86,866	9,123	61,796	15,947
1998	80,052	7,772	57,907	14,373
1999	74,600	6,369	57,808	10,423

Number of Home Health Visits				
Year	State Total	Ownership of Agency		
		Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
1991	2,943,276	369,415	1,327,489	1,246,372
1992	3,387,113	421,843	1,669,609	1,295,661
1993	3,835,946	460,106	2,081,450	1,294,390
1994	4,158,770	479,790	2,257,297	1,421,683
1995	4,349,960	486,783	2,563,909	1,299,268
1996	4,269,921	461,461	2,572,592	1,235,868
1997	4,650,803	444,117	2,624,169	1,582,517
1998	3,897,641	355,848	2,232,184	1,309,609
1999	3,634,574	266,537	2,061,098	1,306,939

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- There were 157 home health agencies that completed the 1999 survey, representing an overall decline of 15 agencies (9 percent) from 1998. Four governmental, four nonprofit, and 11 proprietary agencies closed or merged, while three new nonprofit agencies and one new proprietary agency opened.
- From 1998 to 1999, the total number of Wisconsin home health patients decreased 7 percent, following an 8 percent decline in 1998. The number of patients served by governmental agencies dropped 18 percent, the number of patients served by proprietary agencies declined 27 percent, and the number of patients served by nonprofit agencies remained about the same.

Table 2. Home Health Agencies Certified to Provide Medicare, Medicaid, Personal Care, Hospice, and Health Check (EPSDT) Services; and Agencies that are a Department of or Affiliated with a Hospital, Wisconsin 1991-1999

	Number of Agencies			
Year	Certified by Medicare	Certified by Medicaid	Certified by Medicaid to Provide Personal Care	Certified by Medicare and/or Medicaid to Provide Hospice Care
1991	160	160	116	24
1992	174	172	135	31
1993	178	181	148	35
1994	182	182	150	35
1995	175	175	147	36
1996	184	184	149	43
1997	184	183	147	44
1998	164	167	130	42
1999	150	152	117	42

	Number of Agencies		
Year	Certified to Provide HealthCheck Services	A Department of a Hospital	Affiliated with a Hospital
1991	*	32	12
1992	*	39	14
1993	*	42	14
1994	*	40	17
1995	*	40	17
1996	34	43	19
1997	33	43	20
1998	32	39	15
1999	30	39	15

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Notes: An asterisk (*) indicates the question was not included in that year's survey.

HealthCheck is Wisconsin Medicaid's federally required Early Periodic Screening, Diagnosis and Treatment program (EPSDT) for children up to age 21. The goal of Health Check is to promote early detection and treatment of health conditions before they require chronic and more expensive medical intervention. Health Check includes routine comprehensive screenings, including vision and hearing; dental screening; appropriate immunizations; appropriate tests, including laboratory and lead poisoning screening; and necessary referrals for follow-up care.

- The numbers of home health agencies certified for Medicare, Medicaid, and personal care continued to decline in 1999.
- The number of home health agencies certified to provide hospice services (a separate certification) has been fairly stable since 1996.
- The number of home health agencies part of or affiliated with a hospital remained stable in 1999.

Table 3. Full-Time Equivalent Employees (FTEs) of Home Health Agencies by Ownership Type, Wisconsin, April 1999

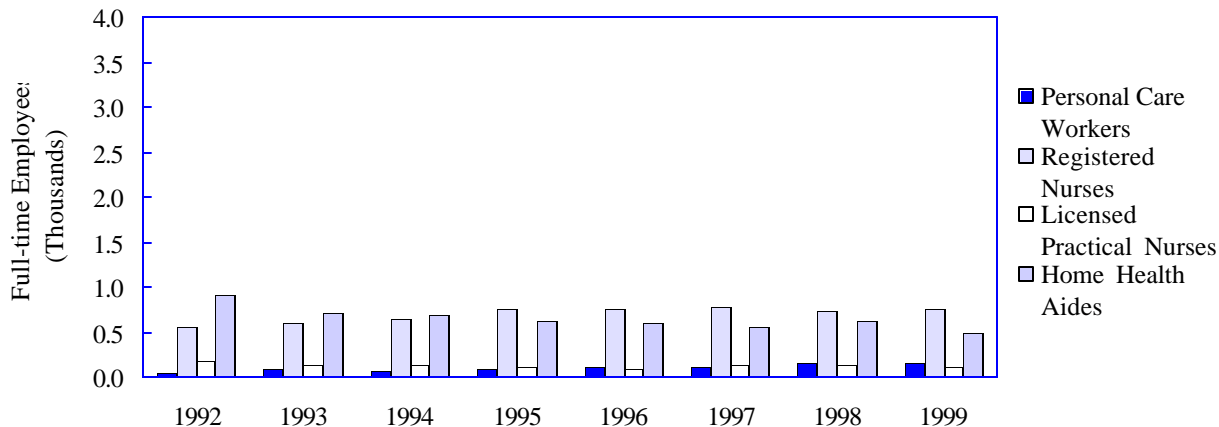
Employee Category	Statewide FTEs		Number of FTEs by Ownership of Agency		
	Number	Percent	Governmental	Non-Profit	Proprietary
Administrator	146		31	59	56
RN Supervisor	236		25	127	83
Subtotal	382	7%	56	187	140
Registered Nurse	1,408		170	912	326
Licensed Practical Nurse	245		6	108	131
Subtotal	1,653	31%	176	1,020	456
Home Health Aide	1,251	23%	101	728	423
Physical Therapist	114		5	98	11
Occupational Therapist	53		1	30	23
Speech Pathologist	11		0	11	1
Respiratory Therapist	11		0	11	0
Medical Social Worker	49		1	45	4
Subtotal	238	4%	7	194	38
Personal Care Worker	760		36	168	556
Homemaker	203		14	89	99
Other	928		88	571	269
Subtotal	1,891	35%	175	997	1,480
Total	5,415	100%	477	2,957	1,981

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: This count of employees is from the week of April 12-16, 1999.

- During the week of April 12 to April 16, 1999, there were 5,415 full-time equivalent employees (FTEs) employed by Wisconsin home health agencies, a decline of 933 (15 percent) from the 6,348 FTEs reported in April 1998. During 1999, the number of both home health patients and home health visits decreased 7 percent.
- Between 1998 and 1999, the number of FTE home health aides declined 35 percent, while the number of patients served by home health aides decreased 23 percent.
- There were 760 FTE personal care workers employed by Wisconsin home health agencies during the week of April 12 to April 16, 1999. About 43 percent of these workers were related to the patients for whom they were caring.
- Between 1998 and 1999, the number of FTE RNs working in home health agencies decreased 12 percent, FTE LPNs in these agencies decreased 16 percent, and FTE personal care workers in these agencies decreased 8 percent.

Figure 1. Full-Time Staff Employed by Home Health Agencies, Wisconsin 1992-1999

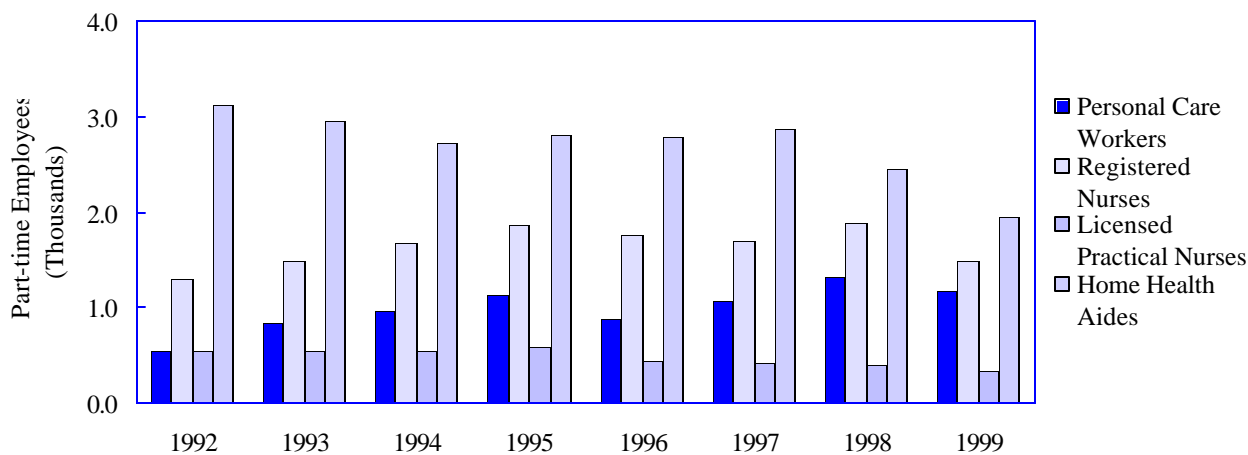


Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: The survey does not include agencies that provide only personal care, but does include agencies that provide both home health care and personal care.

- Between April 1998 and April 1999, the number of full-time home health aides decreased 23 percent (from 626 to 483), the number of full-time LPNs decreased 8 percent (from 125 to 115), and the number of full-time personal care workers declined 7 percent (from 161 to 150). The number of full-time RNs stayed about the same.

Figure 2. Part-Time Staff Employed by Home Health Agencies, Wisconsin, 1992-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: The survey does not include agencies that provide only personal care, but does include agencies that provide both home health care and personal care.

- From April 1998 to April 1999, the number of part-time RNs declined 21 percent (from 1,895 to 1,497), the number of part-time aides declined 21 percent (from 2,455 to 1,944), the number of part-time personal care workers declined 11 percent (from 1,329 to 1,183), and the number of part-time LPNs declined 17 percent (from 395 to 327).

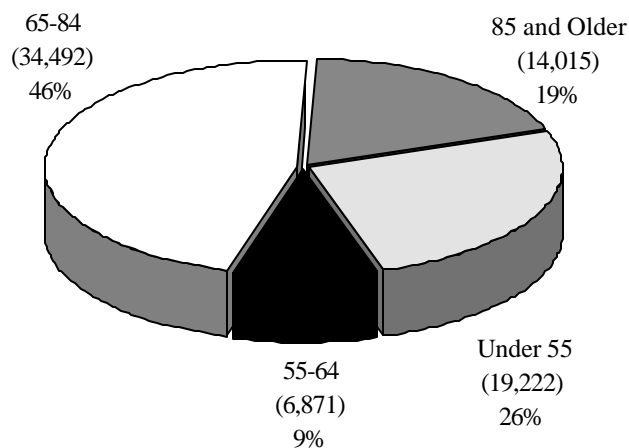
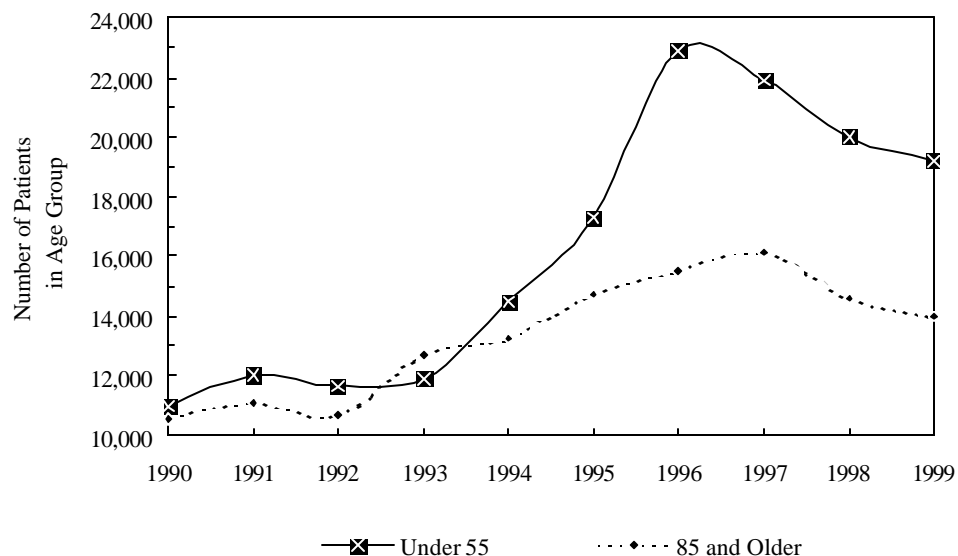


Figure 3. Home Health Patients by Age, Wisconsin 1999

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- In 1999, 26 percent of home health patients were under age 55, 9 percent were aged 55-64, 46 percent were ages 65-84, and 19 percent were aged 85 and older. These proportions were similar to those for 1998.

Figure 4. Home Health Patients Under Age 55 and Age 85 and Older, Wisconsin 1990-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- The number of patients aged 85 and older declined for the second consecutive year. Patients 85 and older decreased 4 percent in 1999 and 10 percent in 1998. Similarly, patients under 55 years of age declined 4 percent in 1999 and 9 percent in 1998.

Table 4. Primary Diagnosis of Home Health Patients by Age, Wisconsin 1999

Primary Diagnosis	Number of Patients	Percent in Age Group					Percent Age 65+
		<55	55-64	65-74	75-84	85+	
Total	74,600	26%	9%	18%	28%	19%	65%
Cardiovascular Disease	11,035	8	9	21	37	26	84
Arthritis (Arthropathies, Dorsopathies & Rheumatism)	6,634	12	10	24	34	20	78
Cancer	6,139	19	17	28	27	9	64
Respiratory Diseases	5,225	16	8	21	34	21	76
Ill-Defined Conditions	4,791	16	6	17	32	29	77
Fractures, Dislocations & Sprains	3,764	15	6	15	37	27	79
Pregnancy & Childbirth	3,297	100	0	0	0	0	0
Wounds, Burns & Other Injuries	3,162	27	12	19	28	15	61
Diabetes	2,810	18	12	22	33	16	70
Conditions Orig.in the Perinatal Period	2,284	99	<1	<1	<1	<1	<1
Genitourinary System	2,100	18	10	19	31	21	72
Stroke	2,058	6	9	22	41	23	86
Central Nervous System/Multiple Sclerosis	1,717	42	11	17	21	9	47
Digestive Disorders	1,315	28	9	17	27	19	63
Osteopathies	1,127	23	11	14	29	23	66
Complications Of Surgery	1,116	35	17	23	18	7	48
Paralysis & Cerebral Palsy	1,073	74	10	8	7	1	16
Psychoses & Neurotic Disorders	1,045	25	11	15	29	19	64
Other Infectious & Parasitic Diseases	1,024	31	14	17	22	16	55
Blood Diseases	936	12	4	14	33	37	84
Congenital Anomalies	655	77	6	7	7	3	17
Dementia/Alzheimer's Disease	533	2	3	11	42	42	95
Mental Retardation	494	71	13	6	9	1	16
Dehydration	366	9	7	22	36	25	84
Eye, Ear Problems	272	20	8	14	30	28	72
Poisoning & Toxic Effects	111	28	10	28	22	13	62
HIV Infection	75	80	7	3	5	5	13
Other Conditions	8,600	27	10	17	24	22	63

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

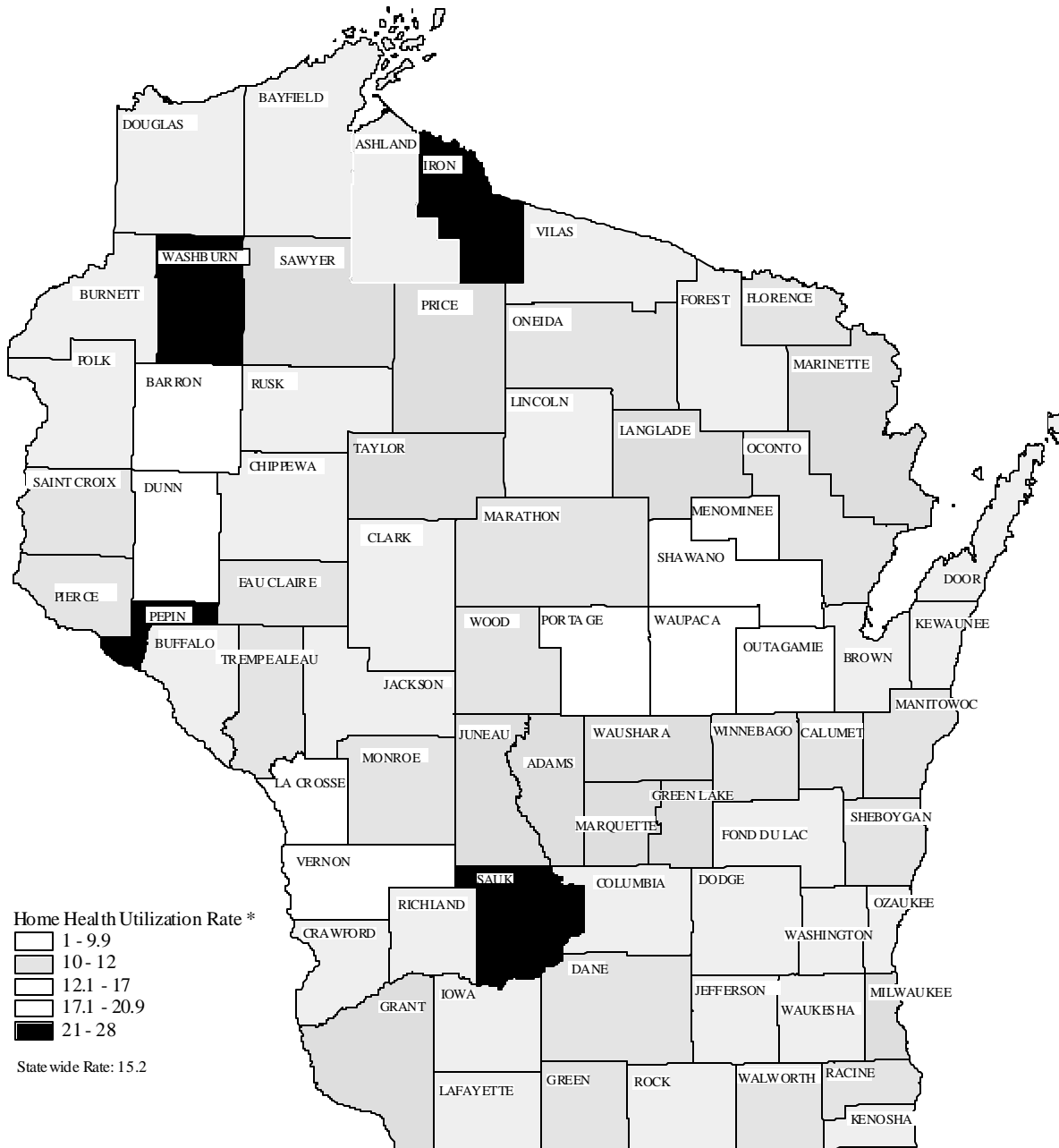
Notes: These numbers reflect unduplicated counts.

Primary diagnosis refers to grouped ICD-9 codes. See survey instrument for more details.

Total includes 842 home health patients whose age and/or primary diagnosis were not reported.

- Between 1998 and 1999, the number of home health patients whose primary diagnosis was "arthritis" increased 2 percent even though the total number of patients decreased 7 percent.

Map. Home Health Utilization Rate
by County of Residence, Wisconsin 1999



* Number of home health patients per 1,000 estimated county population for 1999.

Wisconsin Division of Health Care Financing
Bureau of Health Information

Characteristics of Home Health Patients

Table 5. Home Health Utilization Rate (Patients per 1,000 Population) by County of Residence, Wisconsin 1999

County	Patients	Population	Rate	County	Patients	Population	Rate
State Total	74,600	5,295,180	14.1	Marathon	1,519	126,850	12.0
Adams	330	18,330	18.0	Marinette	742	43,130	17.2
Ashland	281	16,860	16.7	Marquette	249	13,900	17.9
Barron	352	43,620	8.1	Menominee	10	4,840	2.1
Bayfield	194	14,730	13.2	Milwaukee	19750	956,710	20.6
Brown	3,303	222,130	14.9	Monroe	402	39,330	10.2
Buffalo	168	13,940	12.1	Oconto	347	33,850	10.3
Burnett	210	14,230	14.8	Oneida	356	35,050	10.2
Calumet	440	39,580	11.1	Outagamie	1,269	159,000	8.0
Chippewa	880	55,470	15.9	Ozaukee	1,373	81,100	16.9
Clark	399	32,890	12.1	Pepin	153	7,260	21.1
Columbia	649	50,130	12.9	Pierce	390	35,240	11.1
Crawford	236	16,720	14.1	Polk	576	37,700	15.3
Dane	4,887	415,810	11.8	Portage	441	67,620	6.5
Dodge	1,253	84,730	14.8	Price	298	16,420	18.1
Door	404	26,620	15.2	Racine	1,895	189,550	10.0
Douglas	677	42,370	16.0	Richland	287	17,890	16.0
Dunn	360	38,710	9.3	Rock	1,975	151,290	13.1
Eau Claire	1,056	92,360	11.4	Rusk	228	15,320	14.9
Florence	55	5,080	10.8	Saint Croix	608	59,520	10.2
Fond du Lac	1,602	96,960	16.5	Sauk	1,165	53,140	21.9
Forest	149	9,330	16.0	Sawyer	293	15,710	18.7
Grant	851	49,910	17.1	Shawano	294	39,200	7.5
Green	378	32,240	11.7	Sheboygan	1,235	112,450	11.0
Green Lake	349	19,620	17.8	Taylor	355	19,610	18.1
Iowa	337	22,270	15.1	Trempealeau	296	26,600	11.1
Iron	155	6,350	24.4	Vernon	241	26,840	9.0
Jackson	291	18,500	15.7	Vilas	262	19,680	13.3
Jefferson	909	74,360	12.2	Walworth	894	86,020	10.4
Juneau	411	23,590	17.4	Washburn	417	14,930	27.9
Kenosha	1,743	142,810	12.2	Washington	1,512	114,610	13.2
Kewaunee	245	20,100	12.2	Waukesha	4,631	352,650	13.1
La Crosse	959	106,640	9.0	Waupaca	250	50,320	5.0
Lafayette	233	16,270	14.3	Waushara	378	21,040	18.0
Langlade	384	20,640	18.6	Winnebago	1,678	155,050	10.8
Lincoln	460	29,030	15.8	Wood	836	77,940	10.7
Manitowoc	1,018	84,890	12.0				

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: The rate is the number of patients per 1,000 population in each age group, based on 1999 population estimates from the Bureau of Health Information. Total includes 72 patients whose residence was unknown and 315 out-of-state patients.

- The 1999 home health utilization rate (patients per 1,000 population) declined for the third consecutive year. There were 14.1 patients per 1,000 total population in 1999, 15.2 patients per 1,000 in 1998, and 16.7 per 1,000 in 1997.
- Washburn County had the highest home health utilization rate in the state in 1999, 28 patients per 1,000 residents. The utilization rate for Iron County declined from 34 in 1998 to 24 in 1999.
- Among counties with a population of 100,000 or more, Milwaukee had the highest home health utilization rate, with about 21 patients per 1,000 population in 1999; this was down from 24 patients per 1,000 in 1998. Outagamie had the lowest utilization rate among those larger counties, with only about 8 patients per 1,000 population. The utilization rate of Racine County increased from 5 to 10 patients per 1,000 population between 1998 and 1999.

Table 6. Number, Percent and Utilization Rate (Patients per 1,000 Population) of Home Health Patients by Age and Sex, Wisconsin 1999

Age	Total			Female			Male		
	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate	Number	Percent	Rate
All Patients	74,600	100%	14.1	44,660	100%	16.6	29,940	100%	11.5
Under 55	19,222	26	4.6	10,531	24	5.1	8,569	29	4.1
55-64	6,871	9	15.1	3,737	8	16.1	3,114	10	14.1
65-74	13,497	18	38.3	7,621	17	40.1	5,828	19	36.0
75-84	20,995	28	84.1	12,961	29	86.6	7,947	27	79.5
85 or older	14,015	19	146.8	9,579	21	141.5	4,376	15	157.8
65 or older	48,507	65	69.6	30,161	68	74.0	18,151	61	62.6

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: The utilization rate is the number of patients per 1,000 population in each age group, based on 1999 population estimates by the Bureau of Health Information.

- The 1999 home health utilization rate among Wisconsin females was 16.6 per 1,000 population, compared with 18.2 per 1,000 in 1998. The 1999 rate for males was 12.1 per 1,000, compared with 11.5 per 1,000 in 1998.
- Females had higher rates of home health utilization at every age except 85 and older.
- Of the 74,600 home health patients statewide in 1999, 40 percent (30,161) were females age 65 and older. About 24 percent (18,151) were males age 65 and older.
- The home health utilization rate of Wisconsin females age 65 and older decreased from 82 per 1,000 in 1998 to 74 per 1,000 in 1999. The utilization rate for males in that age group decreased from 67 per 1,000 to 63 per 1,000.
- Among males age 85 and older in Wisconsin, 158 of every 1,000 used home health services in 1999, a rate unchanged from 1998. Females age 85 and older used home health services at a lower rate in 1999 (142 per 1,000) than in 1998 (154 per 1,000).

Table 7. Home Health Agencies and Patients in Selected Counties, Wisconsin 1999

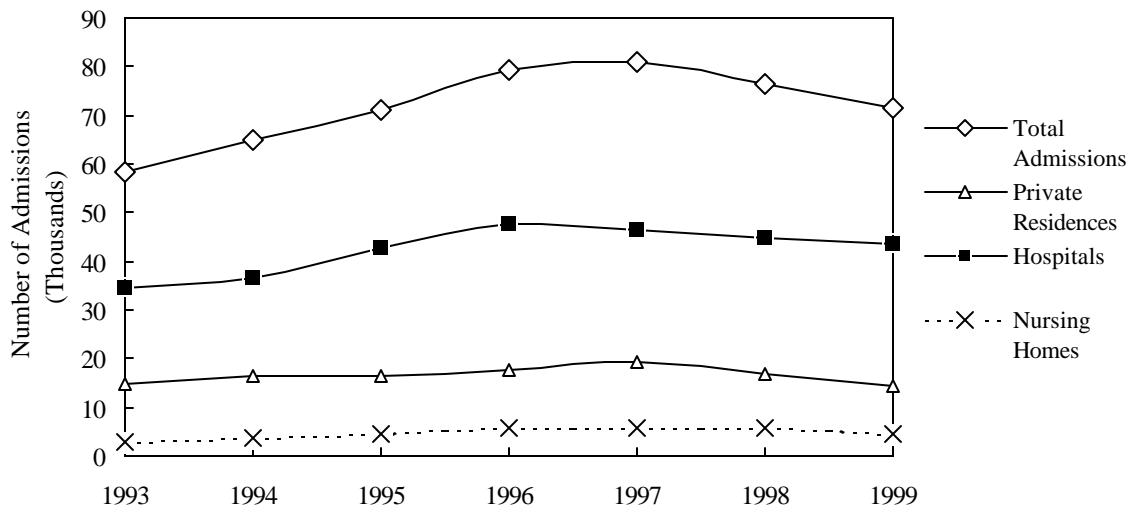
County of Agency	Number of		Percent of Statewide Total Patients
	Agencies	Patients	
All	157	74,600	100%
Milwaukee	20	28,483	38
Dane	8	6,196	8
Winnebago	5	3,557	5
Brown	6	3,550	5
Waukesha	6	3,083	4
Rock	4	1,993	3
Marathon	2	1,945	3
Wood	2	1,741	2
Fond du Lac	2	1,570	2
La Crosse	3	1,478	2
Dodge	3	1,238	2
Chippewa	2	1,217	2
Eau Claire	3	1,051	1
Kenosha	2	1,038	1
Green Lake	1	765	1
Out-of-State Agencies	16	1,048	1

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: Counties whose home health agencies served less than 1 percent of total Wisconsin home health patients were excluded from this table. (Percent column will therefore not add to 100.)

- In 1999, 56 percent of Wisconsin home health patients were served in four counties (Milwaukee, Dane, Winnebago, and Brown). This proportion was up from 53 percent in 1998.
- The 28 home health agencies in Milwaukee and Dane counties served 46 percent of the state's home health patients. Of the 19 home health agencies that closed in 1999, five were located in Milwaukee County and one was located in Dane County.
- Twenty-three agencies in five other counties (Winnebago, Brown, Waukesha, Rock, and Marathon) served 20 percent of the total patients.

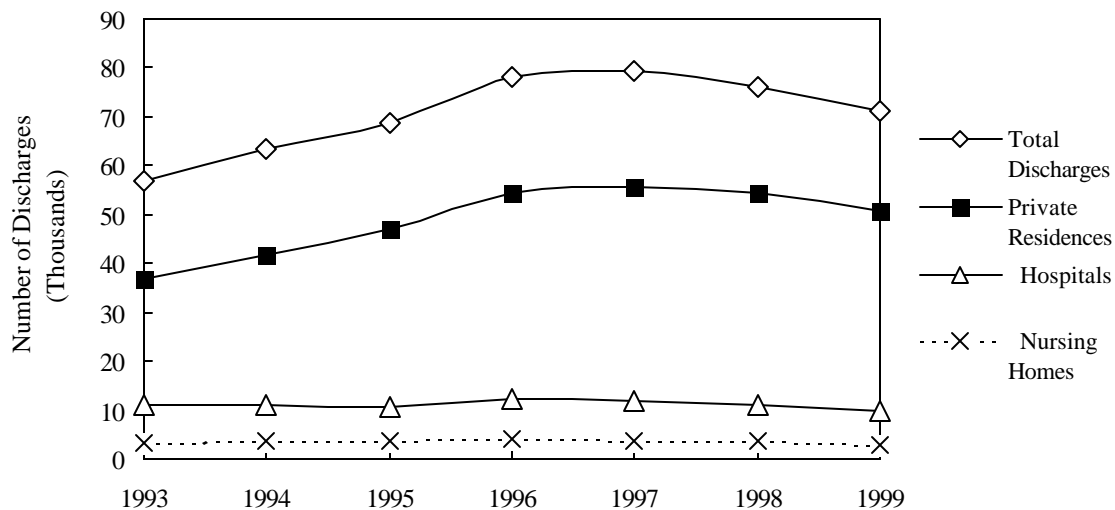
Figure 5. Home Health Admissions from Private Residences, Hospitals, and Nursing Homes, Wisconsin 1993-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- Home health admissions declined 6 percent in 1999, after a 6 percent decline in 1998. Admissions from nursing homes decreased 19 percent, admissions from private residences declined 15 percent, and admissions from hospitals were down 2 percent.

Figure 6. Home Health Discharges To Private Residences, Hospitals, and Nursing Homes, Wisconsin 1993-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- Home health discharges decreased 7 percent in 1999, after a 4 percent decline in 1998. Discharges to nursing homes were down 19 percent in 1998, discharges to hospitals declined 9 percent, and discharges to private residences decreased 7 percent.

Table 8. Services Provided to Home Health Patients, Wisconsin 1999

	Statewide Total		Ownership of Agency		
	Number	Percent	Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
Total Patients	74,600	100	100	100	100
Therapeutic Services					
Skilled Nursing	59,350	80	90	80	73
Home Health Aide Services	18,528	25	37	24	23
Physical Therapy	19,401	26	21	28	20
Speech Pathology	1,436	2	1	2	1
Occupational Therapy	6,162	8	6	9	6
Medical Social Service	5,393	7	1	9	<1
Respiratory Therapy	13	<1	0	<1	<1
Private Duty Nursing	751	1	0	1	3
Other Home Health Care	488	1	<1	<1	3
Non-Therapeutic Services					
Personal Care Service	7,748	10	17	6	29
Personal Care RN Supervisory	6,474	9	16	5	27
Homemaker Service	1,879	3	2	2	4
Other Non-Therapeutic Care	1,509	2	<1	2	1

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: Percents will add to more than 100 because each patient could receive more than one type of service.

- Among all home health patients in 1999, 80 percent received skilled nursing services (down from 83 percent in 1998), 25 percent received home health aide services (down from 30 percent), and 26 percent received physical therapy (up from 23 percent).

Table 9. Home Health Agencies Providing Other Home-Based Services, Wisconsin 1997-1999

Agencies Providing Other Home-Based Services	1997		1998		1999	
	Number of Agencie	Percent	Number of Agencie	Percent	Number of Agencie	Percent
Total Number of Home Health Agencies	191	100%	172	100%	157	100%
Share Cases with Other Agencies	99	52	92	53	86	55
Number of Cases Shared with Home Health Agencies	228		239		305	
Number of Cases Shared with Personal Care Agencies	316		363		299	
Number of Cases Shared with Independent Providers	133		303		303	
Provide Services at:						
Adult Family Homes	96	50	78	45	72	46
Number of Patients on Dec. 31	*	*	194		255	
Adult Day Care Centers	21	11	11	6	13	8
Residential Care/Assisted Living Apts.	123	64	104	60	96	61
Community-Based Residential Facilities (CBRF)	130	68	117	68	109	69
Number of Patients on Dec. 31	*	*	921		677	

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: An asterisk (*) indicates the question was not included in that year's survey.

- In 1999, between 8 and 69 percent of home health agencies provided services at adult family homes, adult day care centers, residential care (assisted living) apartments, or Community-Based Residential Facilities (CBRFs). Sixty-nine percent of agencies reported serving a total of 677 patients living in CBRFs, a decline of 26 percent from 1998.

Table 10. Home Health on a Typical Day: Patient Conditions, Services, and Activities, Wisconsin, April 15, 1999

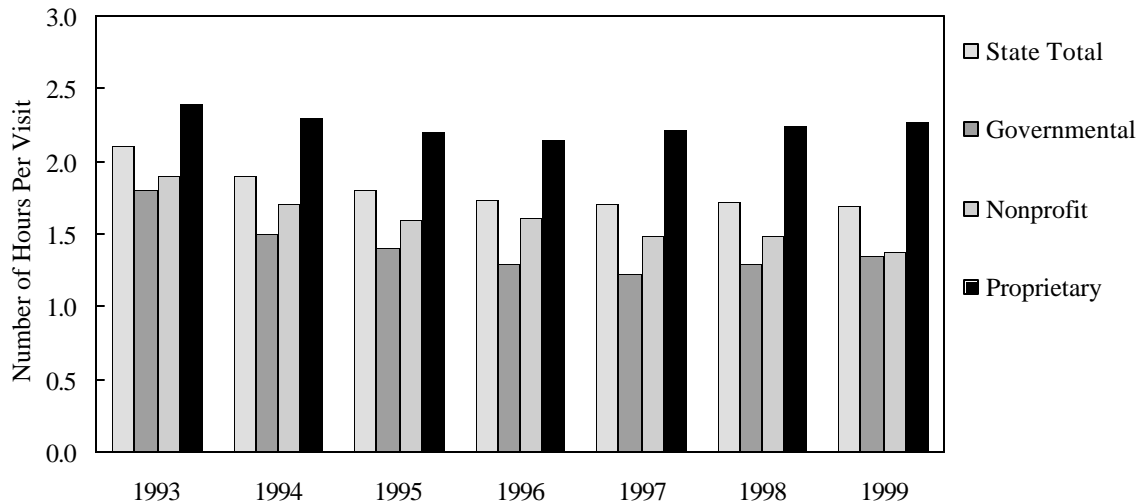
	Patients	Percent of Patients on This Day
Total Patients	8,544	100%
Sensory Difficulties		
Impaired Hearing	1,320	15
Impaired Vision	1,721	20
Psychological Problems		
Attempted Suicide	20	0
Verbally Abusive	210	2
Physically Aggressive	171	2
Impaired Memory	1,611	19
Alcohol & Other Drug Abuse	91	1
Therapies		
Psychiatric Therapy	99	1
Occupational Therapy	327	4
Physical Therapy	1,039	12
Speech Therapy	118	1
Medical Social Services	289	3
Requires Help with Activities Of Daily Living (ADLs)		
Dressing	5,031	59
Ambulation	3,077	36
Eating	1,828	21
Bathing	5,732	67
Toileting	3,010	35
Transferring	3,484	41
1-3 ADLs	3,800	44
4-6 ADLs	2,624	31
Nursing Actions related to:		
Tracheotomy	146	2
Wound Care (ulcers, burns, pressure sores, etc.)	1,382	16
Ostomy Care	263	3
Respiratory Care (Medicaid Only)	116	1
Respiratory Care (except Medicaid)	89	1
Tube Feeding	269	3
Appliances	535	6
Pharm. Administration (excluding I.V.)	806	9
I.V. Administration	218	3
Medication Setup	1,138	13
Other Nursing Actions	2,067	24

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Notes: The percentages shown in this table are based on a reported total of 8,544 patients. Percents will add to more than 100 because each patient may have had more than one condition, may have received more than one service, or may have had more than one ADL need.

- The number of home health patients on a “typical” day decreased from 10,273 in April 1998 to 8,544 in April 1999. This was a decline of 17 percent, after a decline of 8 percent from 1997 to 1998.
- Forty-four percent of all home health patients seen on a “typical” day in April 1999 required help with 1 to 3 ADLs (Activities of Daily Living), and 31 percent required help with 4 to 6 ADLs.
- Twenty percent of the patients visited on this day in 1999 had impaired vision (compared to 43 percent in 1998) and 19 percent had impaired memory.

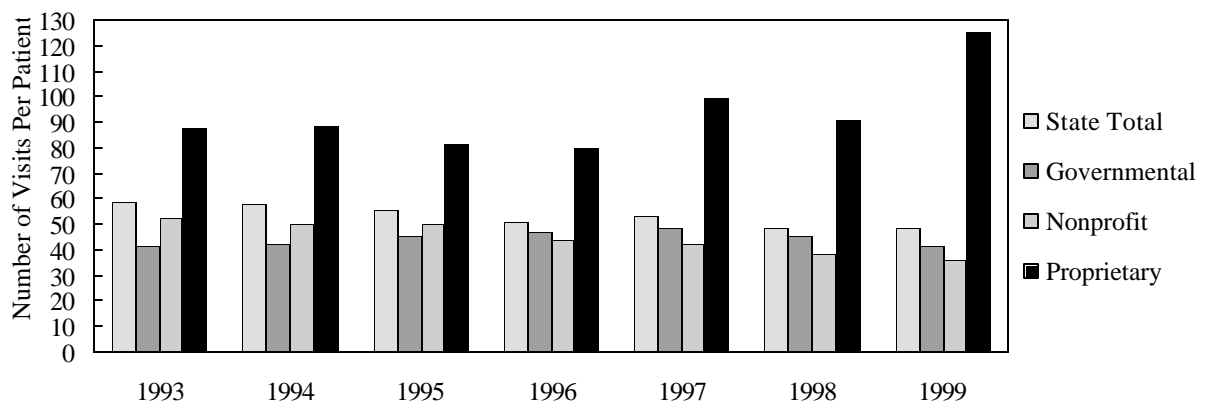
Figure 7. Average Number of Hours per Home Health Visit, Wisconsin 1993-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- The average length of a home health visit in 1999 was 1.7 hours, unchanged from 1998.
- Home health visits by governmental agencies lasted about 1.4 hours on average (ranging from 0.8 hour to 2.2 hours per visit); visits by nonprofit agencies lasted about 1.4 hours average (ranging from 0.6 hour to 5.5 hours per visit); and visits by proprietary agencies lasted about 2.3 hours average (ranging from 0.7 hour to 7.2 hours per visit).

Figure 8. Average Number of Visits per Home Health Patient, Wisconsin 1993-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- Average visits per patient statewide remained stable in 1999, at around 49 visits per patient.
- On average, proprietary agencies made 125 visits to each of their patients in 1999, up 34 percent from their 1998 average of 91 visits per patient. Average visits per patient declined 9 percent for governmental agencies (to 42) and 8 percent for nonprofit agencies (to 36).

Financial Information

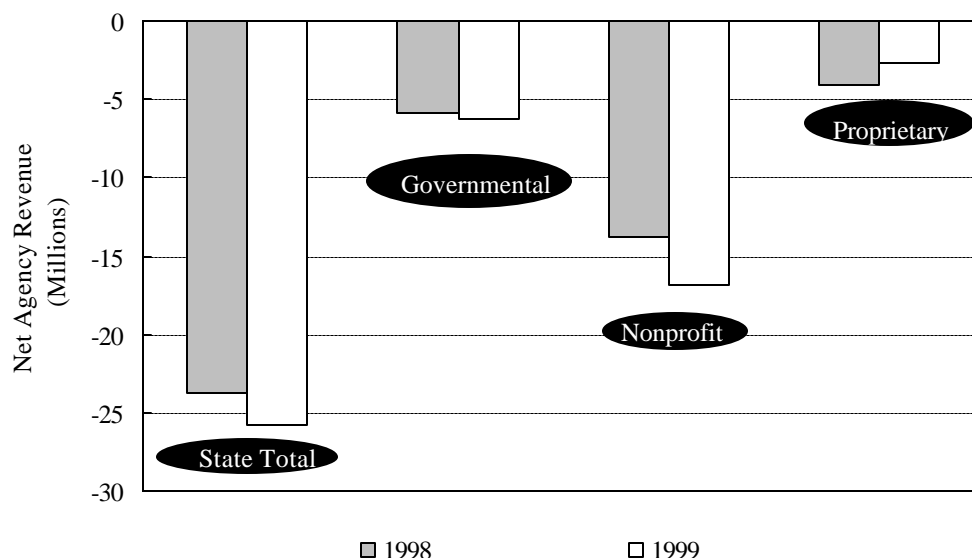
Table 11. Home Health Agency Revenue by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1999

	State Total Amount Percent		Ownership of Agency					
			Governmental		Nonprofit		Proprietary	
	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent	Amount	Percent
Gross Patient Revenue								
Medicare	\$107,228,916	45%	\$8,129,910	51%	\$87,680,554	59%	11,418,452	15%
Medicaid	88,547,381	37	4,638,639	29	\$32,682,601	22	51,226,141	67
Other Federal Government	454,135	0	175,314	1	\$189,033	0	89,788	0
State Government (COP, etc.)	4,603,974	2	425,553	3	\$2,435,516	2	1,742,905	2
All Other Government	1,484,870	1	308,636	2	\$790,264	1	385,970	1
Third Party	23,502,314	10	1,350,904	9	\$15,846,476	11	6,304,934	8
Self Pay	11,146,028	5	770,257	5	\$5,702,836	4	4,672,935	6
Other Sources of Revenue	1,913,438	1	24,013	0	\$1,613,625	1	275,800	0
Reported Gross Patient Revenue	\$239,793,065	100%	\$15,823,22	100%	\$147,852,914	100%	\$76,116,925	100%
Deductions from Revenue								
Medicare	\$23,086,399	10	\$1,527,210	10	\$17,838,107	12	\$3,721,082	5
Medicaid	25,995,879	11	1,133,865	7	8,740,596	6	16,121,418	21
Other Government	223,445	0	77,310	0	119,334	0	26,801	0
Third Party	3,377,176	1	312,658	2	2,245,659	2	818,859	1
Bad Debts	1,600,579	1	112,097	1	894,475	1	594,007	1
Charity	634,754	0	411,126	3	222,973	0	655	0
Other Deductions	524,580	0	186,026	1	183,465	0	155,089	0
Reported Total Deductions	55,647,017	23	3,760,292	24	30,448,814	21	21,437,911	28
NET PATIENT REVENUE	\$184,146,048	77	\$12,062,93	76	\$117,404,100	79	\$54,679,014	72
Donations								
United Way	\$691,880	0	0	0	\$691,880	0	0	0
Other Donations	611,238	0	58,948	0	551,785	0	505	0
Total Donations	1,303,118	1	58,948	0	1,243,665	1	505	0
Other Home Health	2,560,423	1	347,520	2	970,358	1	1,242,545	2
TOTAL AGENCY REVENUE	\$188,009,589	78	\$12,469,40	79	\$119,618,123	81	\$55,922,064	73

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Notes: Revenue and deductions are self-reported by agencies and based on their most recently completed fiscal year. Gross patient revenue is the total amount that an agency has billed for services to patients. Deductions from revenue are disallowances from Medicare, Medicaid, or private insurance; bad debts; and charges to patients that have not been paid. Total deductions from revenue are subtracted from gross patient revenue to yield net patient revenue. Net patient revenue is the total revenue that agencies are paid by patients or their insurers. Donations and other revenues are added to net patient revenue to obtain total agency revenue.

- Reported gross patient revenue of home health agencies statewide for 1999 was \$239.8 million, a decline of 10 percent from \$267.7 million in 1998. Gross revenue from Medicare constituted 45 percent of gross patient revenue in 1999 (down from 52 percent in 1998), while gross revenue from Medicaid constituted 37 percent (up from 30 percent).
- Proprietary agencies reported \$76 million in gross patient revenue in 1999, a decrease of 8 percent from \$83 million in 1997. Nonprofit agencies reported \$147.9 million in gross patient revenue in 1999, a decline of 10 percent from \$164.4 million in 1998. Governmental agencies reported \$15.8 million in gross revenue in 1999, down 22 percent from \$20.3 million in 1998.
- Total agency revenue statewide was \$188 million in 1999, down 13 percent from \$216.2 million in 1998.

Figure 9. Net Agency Revenue by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1999

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- Statewide, total expenses reported by home health agencies exceeded total self-reported revenue by over \$25.8 million in 1999.
- For proprietary agencies, total self-reported expenses surpassed revenue by \$2.7 million in 1999. For nonprofit agencies, total self-reported expenses surpassed revenue by \$16.8 million. For governmental agencies, total self-reported expenses surpassed revenue by \$6.3 million.

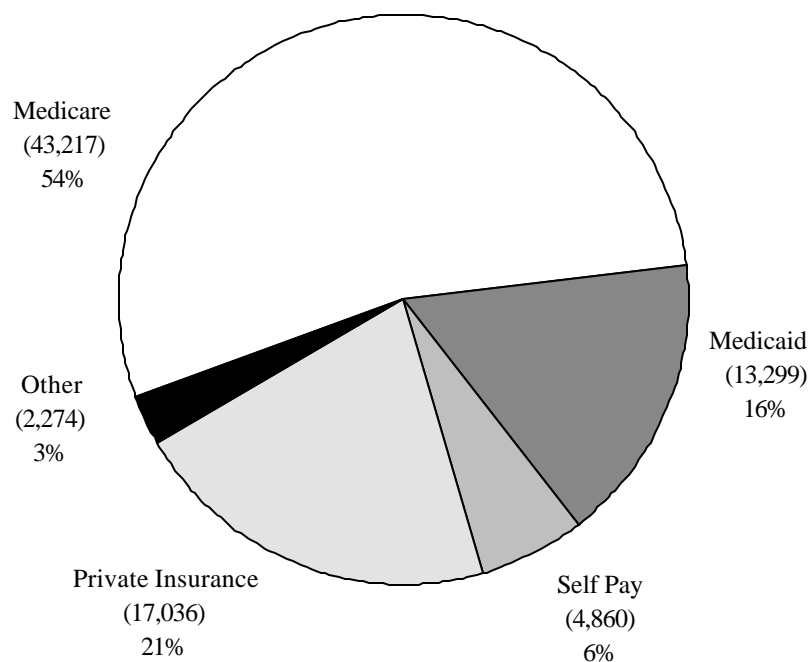
Table 12. Self-Reported Agency Revenue and Expenses by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1999

	State Total	Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
Total Agency Revenue	\$188,009,589	\$12,469,402	\$119,618,123	\$55,922,064
Total Expenses	213,775,438	18,769,268	136,421,460	58,584,710
Net Agency Revenue	-\$25,765,849	-\$6,299,866	-\$16,803,337	-\$2,662,646

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: Total agency revenue equals gross patient revenue, less deductions, plus any donations.

Figure 10. Home Health Patients by Payment Source, Wisconsin 1999

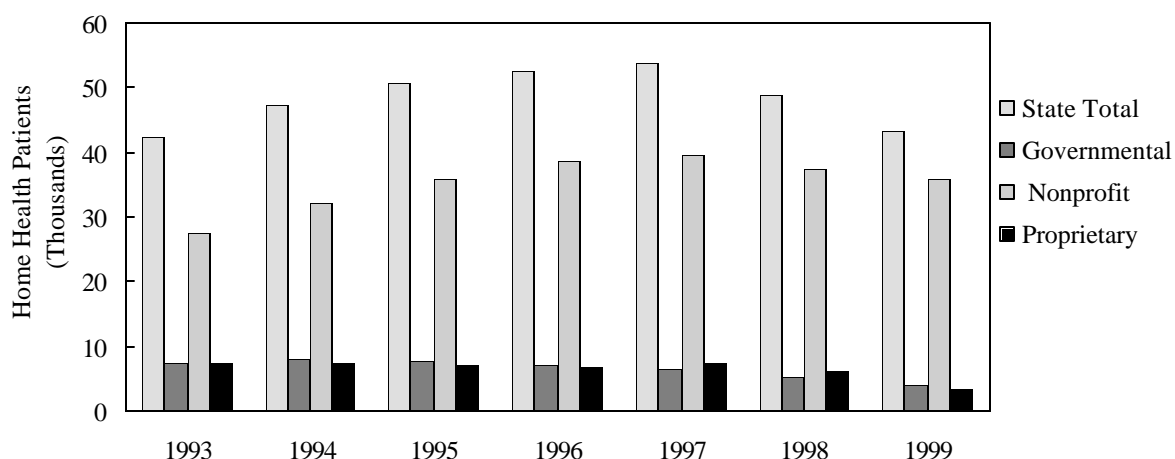


Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing,
Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: Patients may be counted in more than one payment source.

- In 1999, 54 percent of home health patients used Medicare as a payment source, down from 56 percent in 1998; 16 percent used Medicaid, the same as in 1998; and 21 percent used private insurance, up from 18 percent in 1998.
- About 43,200 home health patients used Medicare as a source of payment in 1999, a 12 percent decrease from the 48,900 patients in 1998.
- About 13,300 home health patients used Medicaid in 1999, down about 5 percent from 1998 (13,900).
- About 17,000 home health patients used private insurance as a payment source in 1999, an 8 percent increase from the 15,800 patients in 1998.

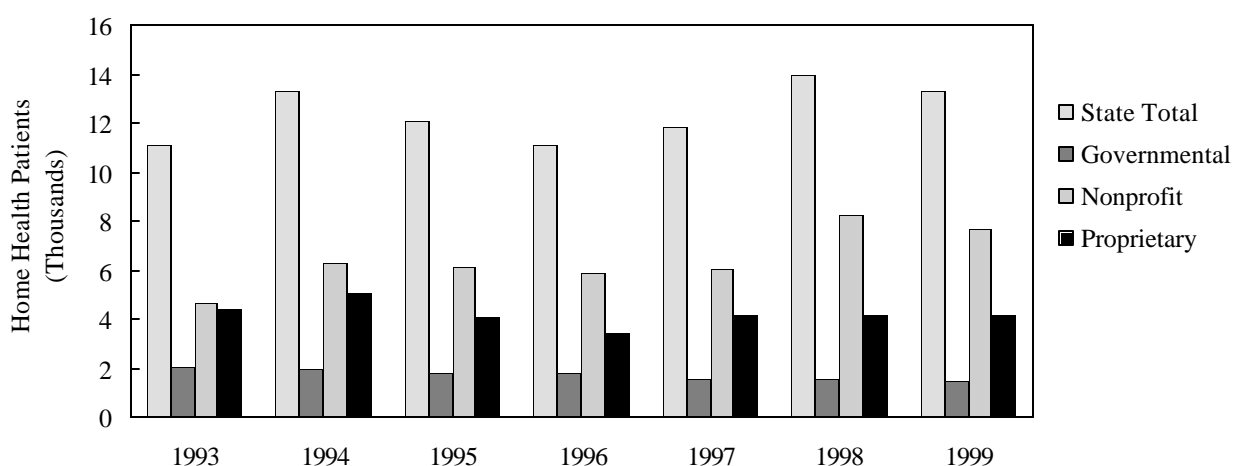
Figure 11. Home Health Patients Using Medicare as a Source of Payment by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1993-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- The total number of home health patients using Medicare as a source of payment in Wisconsin declined 12 percent in 1999, after a 9 percent decline in 1998. Eighty-three percent of Medicare patients were served by nonprofit agencies, compared to 77 percent in 1998.

Figure 12. Home Health Patients Using Medicaid as Source of Payment by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1993-1999



Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

- The total number of home health patients using Medicaid as a payment source decreased 5 percent in 1999, following an 18 percent increase in 1998.

Table 13. Medicare Payments to Home Health Agencies by Ownership Type, Wisconsin 1999

Payment Source	State Total	Ownership of Agency		
		Governmental	Nonprofit	Proprietary
Medicare	\$84,142,517	\$6,602,700	\$69,842,447	\$7,697,370

Source: Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies, Bureau of Health Information, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Notes: The dollar amounts shown in this table were unaudited at the time they were reported on the Annual Survey of Home Health Agencies. Agencies that closed during the year did not report (see Introduction).

- In 1999, Medicare payments as reported by home health agencies statewide totaled about \$84.1 million, a decline of 24 percent (\$26.5 million) from 1998. This followed a 21 percent (\$30 million) decline between 1997 and 1998.

Table 14. Medicaid Payments to Home Health Agencies and Other Home Care Providers as Reported by the Wisconsin Division of Health Care Financing, Wisconsin FY 1999

State Fiscal Year	Home Health Agencies	Other Home Care Providers	Home Care Industry Total
1999	\$70,481,190	\$56,324,907	\$126,806,957

Source: Wisconsin Medicaid, Division of Health Care Financing, Department of Health and Family Services.

Note: Dollar amounts shown in this table include all Medicaid payments to Wisconsin home health agencies for 1999. The amounts reported in the "Home Health Agencies" category include payments to agencies providing home health services only, as well as to agencies providing home health and personal care services. The "Other Home Care Providers" category includes amounts paid to agencies which provided personal care only, and to independent nurses providing private duty nursing services and/or respiratory care services.

- In Fiscal Year 1999, total Medicaid payments to the state's home care industry, as reported by the Wisconsin Division of Health Care Financing, were about \$11.9 million more than in 1998. This represents an increase of 10 percent. DHCF-reported payments to home health agencies only (excluding other home care providers) declined by \$2.7 million, or 4 percent.

